

## AGRICULTURAL INTERESTS

### IMPROVE QUALITY IN WOOL

With wool selling around 20 cents it is to the interest of every farmer to produce a good quality of wool. There are many ways by which the farmer can increase the quality of the wool clip.

The amount of wool which a sheep gives at the time of shearing depends largely on whether the animal has been properly fed. Good feeding requires a somewhat narrower protein ration than other classes of livestock, the growing of the fleece and fleece demanding a liberal amount of protein in the ration. A sheep which will produce six pounds of wool under poor feeding will easily produce eight pounds under liberal feeding with a fairly high protein ration. The age of the sheep also influences the yield of wool. An old sheep will not shear as heavily as a yearling or two-year old.

Manufacturers demand a strong fibre in the fleece and nothing but a strong, well fed sheep will produce a strong fibre wool. If a sheep becomes sick or diseased there will be a weak spot in the fibre which will grow at the time. If a sheep is in rather low flesh it will catch cold easily, especially if exposed to cold rain or a wet snow. This condition will result in a weak spot in the wool fibre and thus decrease its value to the manufacturer. The flock should be kept up in good condition with enough protein fed either by means of legume hay roughages or the addition of some protein concentrates as oats and wheat bran. If anything decreases the value of wool more than that, hay and seed and burrs which get into the fleece. Elimination of dirt largely under the control of the sheep owner. The sheep should not be allowed to run around a hay or straw stack. Feeding racks which allow the hay to drop onto the neck and shoulders of the sheep should not be used. The feeding racks should be filled either from a feeding passage or else while the flock is outside so that the hay is not carried to the rack over their backs. Allowing burrs to get into the fleece can easily be prevented by cutting the burrs before they are ripe.

The payment for wool according to quality as proposed by the Connecticut Sheep Breeders' Association is an incentive for the farmer to produce a good quality of wool. He will be paid according to the cleanliness and quality of the fleece. The co-operative grading and marketing of Connecticut wool clip will result in a better and more uniform quality going to the market from this state. — R. G. Segs, Connecticut Agricultural College.

### INCREASE OF CATTLE IN EAST.

The part of the United States that lies east of the Mississippi river has a diminishing number of farms and range cattle of the United States until soon after 1900, on account of the growing number of farms and increasing utilization of the land. The number of farms in the east of the river had 44 per cent. of the farm cattle in 1890, 56 per cent. in 1900, and 58 per cent. in 1910. By 1910 the tendency toward relative loss of cattle east of the river was reversed, and by 1913 the increasing fraction had reached 61 per cent. of the total farm cattle of the whole country.

### WHAT FLOCK SHOULD PRODUCE.

A great many poultry keepers have no real standard or guide by which to determine whether or not the egg yield of their flocks is satisfactory. The data compiled by the officials who have had charge of the international egg laying contest at the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station are of special value. These records cover eight years' results in poultry keeping and include data from thousands of hens. The accompanying table or monthly calendar of egg production is offered as an indication for the flock owner of what good hens should produce in each month of the year.

While the production of 160 eggs a hen a year is higher than the average, it furnishes a goal toward which the flock owner may work through systematic culling and good breeding. This figure is approximately sixty eggs more than the annual output of the average New England hen, while it is approximately ninety-five eggs more than the average hen of the egg-laying breeds produced in a year. It is worthy of note that the average hen—according to the results of the egg laying contest under discussion—produces a maximum yield of eggs during the months of March, April, May and June. As a rule she begins laying in November and gradually tubes up until the first of March, when she is producing well. About or September, when her egg yield again declines in preparation for the moult or vacation period for the producing fowls.

Every flock owner could profitably apply the poultry house with a small record book, such as is in the accompanying table, in the allotted space each day the yield of each hen, and at the end of the month can readily be ascertained the total third day production of each fowl in the flock. This monthly yield can be checked back against the average yield from the international egg laying contest as presented in the poultry production calendar. When unprofitable hens or pullets are located they can be culled from the flock, while the profitable ones may also be of value in enhancing egg production by altering and improving the methods of feeding and general management.

This standard of production is of special value, as it furnishes a definite goal toward which all may work and as an incentive to improve flock production.

Average number of eggs the good hen should lay: November 15, December 2, January 2, February 13, March 23, April 13, May 13, June 13, July 13, August 13, September 10, October 10, November 10, total for the year 160.

### ASPIRIN FIRST KNOWN IN 1900

THE BAYER COMPANY INTRODUCED ASPIRIN TO PHYSICIANS 18 YEARS AGO.

If you want the true world-famous Aspirin, as prescribed by physicians for over eighteen years, you must ask for "Bayer Tablets of Aspirin."

The "Bayer Cross" is stamped on each tablet and is the mark of the Bayer Company, the sole manufacturer of Aspirin in the United States.

Each package of "Bayer Tablets of Aspirin" contains 10 tablets. Tablets are sold in 100-tablet packages. Tablets are sold in 100-tablet packages. Tablets are sold in 100-tablet packages.

### TON-OF-PORK CLUB

Seven boys and three girls in Hiram and Haddam, Conn., have organized a "ton-of-pork" club. The purpose is to produce 2,000 pounds of pork this fall from 10 pigs. Each member in the club owns a small pig. Early in July the weights of the club pigs averaged 37 pounds. By November, or in four months, the members of this club, which supervised by the extension division of the State Agricultural College, and the United States Department of Agriculture, expect to make their place average 200 pounds each, or 2,000 pounds for the 10 pigs.

The club leader of the boys' and girls' clubs in Connecticut believes in the "ton-of-pork" idea is in line with his program.

### SAVE STABLE MANURE.

Do you know that a cow makes about 115 worth of manure a year? That she is not worth keeping on many farms unless she is credited with this manure? If we do know this, why do we waste so much of this valuable by-product? The figures above are easily checked. A 1,000-pound cow excretes annually 155 pounds of nitrogen worth \$48.50, 38 pounds of phosphoric acid worth \$1.50, and 127 pounds of potash worth \$1.50, total \$51.50, according to W. L. Slate of the department of agronomy at Connecticut Agricultural College, Storrs. That does not take into account the bedding, which in the case of straw or cheap hay is also valuable.

To be sure, only about two-thirds of the annual amount is dropped in the stable. The other third is dropped on the pasture, where it is not wasted. On that basis, two-thirds of \$51.50 is \$34.33, but you say that all of this plant food is not readily available. This is also true, but the two-thirds dropped in the stable, a considerable portion is in the form of nitrogen and 72 pounds of potash—readily available. Half of this is \$17.17 or a total production of \$48.31 worth of active fertilizer to be had for a little care.

### CUTTING POULTRY COSTS.

Feed is the greatest item of expense in poultry raising, according to Roy E. Jones, poultry specialist for the extension service of Connecticut Agricultural College. By careful buying and home mixing of feeds, says Mr. Jones, it is possible to save 17.3 per cent. of cost, amounting to 55 cents for each hen for one year. These figures were compiled from

records obtained at Storrs in the egg laying contests. The feed cost per hen in the contest was jumped from \$1.71 in 1913-14 to \$2.34 in 1917-18. Despite the great increase in cost of poultry raising, the increased price of eggs has enabled the careful poultryman to meet the new costs and to make even better profits. The poultry business probably has never offered such excellent opportunities as the present for the skillful and careful poultryman.

The following directions for home mixing of dry mash and scratch grains are taken from a leaflet, "Reducing Feed Costs," available through the extension service at Storrs.

### DRY MASH.

Beans ..... 100  
Middlings (do) in best ..... 100  
Corn meal or hominy ..... 100  
Ground oats ..... 100  
Molasses ..... 100  
Beef scrap ..... 100

### SCRATCH GRAIN.

Cracked corn ..... 200  
Oats (40 to 42 lb. oats) ..... 100  
Wheat ..... 100  
Barley and buckwheat may be used when prices are right. Control mash consumption by increasing or decreasing grain.

### CATTLE LICE.

Most cows are more or less infested with cattle lice, so that nearly every one who keeps cows is somewhat familiar with these insects. Infestations vary from year to year both in the number of animals affected and the severity of the attacks on individual animals. Cattle lice become one of the common troubles during the winter, bearing somewhat the same relation to a pest that the flies do in the summer. That cattle lice should occur among the cows of a dairyman is by no means a disparagement nor does it reflect upon his ability to keep cows successfully, for lice are more or less established in all places where cattle are kept.

Lice are small and inconspicuous at times in such large numbers that they are readily transmitted from one animal to another without being seen. They may remain on the stock for a considerable length of time before being noticed. On the ranges, telephone and telegraph poles are protected by wire, owing to the fact that lice cause cattle ranchmen, wearing the poles in consequence.

Nearly every animal bearing hair or feathers is subject to from one to a dozen species of lice that may attack it. To those who give this subject but little thought, all lice seem alike, yet they are quite distinct in shape, size, markings, habits, method of attack, and length of life history. In the past they were looked upon as instruments of the punishment and humiliation of the animals infested. It was thought that at certain times they developed spontaneously from filth.

One of the most important facts regarding lice is their method of feeding. There are two groups, one of which may be classed as biting lice, that feed as do most of the lice upon the dried skin, hair or feathers, but does not suck the blood. The other group, the sucking lice, suck the blood from the animal. These do considerably more in

jury to the cow, and the examples of this group are the long-nosed and the short-nosed cattle lice.—G. H. Lamson, Department of Entomology, Connecticut Agricultural College, Storrs.

### TRAP NEST THE LAYING HENS.

A trap nest is a laying nest so arranged that after a hen enters it she is confined until released by the attendant. When possible it is advisable to trap nest the layers for the following reasons:

1. To tame the birds, thereby tending toward increased egg production.
2. To furnish definite knowledge concerning traits and habits of individuals.
3. To furnish the only satisfactory basis for utility or other breeding.
4. To eliminate the non-productive hen.
5. To add mechanical precision to the management and scientific development and maintaining the utility of a flock.

### DUST BATH FOR BIDDY.

There should be a place in the yard or house where the hens can dust themselves in the dry dirt. If it is necessary to provide an artificial medium for this work a box about two feet square, filled with ordinary road dust or fine dirt, should be made constantly accessible to the matrons and mites of the flock. The hens must be kept as free as possible from infection by insect enemies, and if the birds themselves cannot gain this end by individual dusting, the owner should institute artificial control measures.

To rid the hens of lice, each one should be treated by placing small pinches of sodium fluorid material in the creases of the feathers next to the skin—one pinch on the head, one on the neck, two on the back, one on the breast, one on the vent, one at the base of the tail, one on either side, and one scattered on the under side of each wing when spread. Another method is to use a small quantity of blue ointment, a piece about as large as a pea, on the skin one inch below the vent. If mercurial ointment is used instead of blue ointment, it should be diluted with an equal quantity of vasoline. Any of these methods will be found very effective in ridding the hens of lice, and should be employed whenever the lice become troublesome. Two or three applications a year usually prove sufficient.

Mites are more troublesome and more harmful than lice. They do not live upon the birds like the lice, but during the day hide in the cracks and crevices of the roosts and walls of the house, and at night they emerge and wander around upon the fowls. They suck the hen's blood, and if allowed to become plentiful—as they certainly will if not destroyed—will seriously affect her health and consequently her ability to lay eggs. They may be eradicated by a few thorough applications of kerosene or some of the coal tar products which are sold for this purpose, or crude petroleum to the interior of the poultry house. Crude petroleum will spray better if thinned with one part of kerosene to four parts of the crude oil. Both the crude petroleum and coal tar products often contain foreign particles and should be strained before being sprayed. The poultryman must be sure that the

spray reaches all the cracks and crevices. He should give special attention to the roosts, droppings boards and nests, and the treatment should be repeated two or three times at intervals of a week or ten days.

### THE GREAT DEMAND FOR RABBIT SKINS

In recent years several kinds of fur, formerly of so little value as to offer no inducement to the trapper, have been raised in price, and consequently collecting them has been made profitable. Rabbit pelts, which are extensively used by hat makers, are among these products. One eastern concern has announced that it will need 10,000,000 rabbit skins during 1919 and 1920, and it desires as far as possible to secure them from American sources. This is an indication of a market which should interest many a farmer boy. This fall and winter dried, cased rabbit skins will probably bring a reasonably good return. They are sold by the pound, which will contain seven or eight skins. Many farmers can readily acquire, in the course of the winter, large numbers of skins which will net them a tidy sum and, in addition, they will have the pleasure of trapping experience. The United States department of agriculture will supply any inquirer with the names and addresses of possible purchasers of rabbit skins and other pelts.

### WESTERLY

(Continued from Page Eight)

If the needed ground cannot be had in Westerville, the council would be well for the council to refrain from formal recommendation of the transfer of land now in the possession of the board of school visitors until after like action had been taken by the board. This was agreed to by Mr. Fowler.

It was voted to insert in the call for town meeting the proposition: "Shall the town sell the property now known as Riverdale park?" Francis G. Haywell, a former councilman, and chairman of the committee on the building and equipment of detention rooms, in connection with the police department, stated that the work was completed. He invited the members of the council to make inspection. This they did forthwith and the committee was discharged with thanks.

Application for license for pool table was received from John E. Holliday. When questioned, Police Chief Brown said he was opposed to pool licenses in places where cider was sold. President Dalton stated that reports had come to him that the demanded investigation. Then action was deferred to next meeting.

The report of the police chief was received, approved and ordered on file. During December there were three arrests, a total of 124 during the year. Dr. Samuel C. Webster, superintendent of health, reported eight cases of scarlet fever and one of measles, reported in December, and all in the Bradford section. The council adjourned to Friday, January 30, to canvass the voting list and to prepare budget.

## COAL ANTHRACITE COAL

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THAT EXTRA COAL. LET THE

## Max Gordon & Son Corp.

REFILL YOUR BINS WITH

## Finest Screened Lehigh

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Telephone 605

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## COAL BITUMINOUS COAL

### HOPKINTON

A team horse fell on the ice in front of the house of Charles I. Blake, Friday evening and broke a leg. It was shot to end its misery. George B. Langworthy is confined to his home by illness. Miss Edwina Hurtado, employed in

Providence, was home over New Year's day. William H. Burdick began harvesting ice Monday morning. The boiler of the steam heating plant in the home of M. Herbert Kenyon burst Saturday, necessitating the use of stoves. Mrs. D. R. Merritt, who has been

suffering from a broken wrist, is making good progress towards recovery. Several from Ashaway attended the community social at Laurel Glen on Wednesday evening, Dec. 31st. Public schools in town resumed sessions Monday morning.

## THE PORTEOUS & MITCHELL CO.

The Weather Today Will Probably Be Cloudy

# Our January Clearance Sale

WILL CONTINUE ALL THIS WEEK

## Men's Wear

Our Large Stock of Men's Winter-Weight Overcoats, Suits and Furnishings at January Sale Prices

**Winter Overcoats**  
At \$21.50—reduced from \$25.00  
At \$23.50—reduced from \$28.00  
At \$24.50—reduced from \$28.00  
At \$24.50—reduced from \$28.00  
At \$27.50—reduced from \$30.00  
At \$27.50—reduced from \$30.00  
At \$27.50—reduced from \$30.00

**Winter Weight Suits**  
At \$20.50—reduced from \$25.00  
At \$22.50—reduced from \$28.00  
At \$22.50—reduced from \$28.00  
At \$23.50—reduced from \$28.00  
At \$27.50—reduced from \$30.00  
At \$27.50—reduced from \$30.00

**Men's Trousers**  
At \$3.49—reduced from \$4.00  
At \$3.49—reduced from \$4.00  
At \$3.49—reduced from \$4.00  
At \$3.49—reduced from \$4.00

**Men's Raincoats**  
At \$12.95—reduced from \$15.00  
At \$14.95—reduced from \$18.00  
At \$16.95—reduced from \$20.00

**Men's Fancy Knitted Storm Vests**  
At \$5.99—reduced from \$6.50  
At \$7.99—reduced from \$8.50

**Men's Soft Collars**  
Triangle Brand  
At \$1.25—reduced from \$1.50  
At \$2.00—reduced from \$2.50  
At \$2.00—reduced from \$2.50

**Men's Neckwear**  
At \$5.00—reduced from \$6.00  
At \$5.00—reduced from \$6.00  
At \$5.00—reduced from \$6.00  
At \$5.00—reduced from \$6.00  
At \$5.00—reduced from \$6.00  
At \$5.00—reduced from \$6.00

**Men's Flannel Shirts**  
Gray, Khaki and Blue  
At \$1.25—reduced from \$2.00  
At \$1.25—reduced from \$2.00  
At \$1.25—reduced from \$2.00  
At \$1.25—reduced from \$2.00  
At \$1.25—reduced from \$2.00  
At \$1.25—reduced from \$2.00

**Bargain Tables**  
See our Bargain Tables for our special wonderful sale values in all lines of Men's Underwear, Hosiery and Socks.

THIS January Clearance Sale is an established event with us. We have built it up year by year until it has reached a place where it is eagerly looked forward to, and waited for, by hundreds of our customers.

WE are proud of this big Sale event and would rather strengthen it by a sacrifice of profit, thus giving extra good values, than weaken it by trying to get prices based on today's valuations, which are considerably higher.

THIS is not benevolent generosity on our part—it is business!—and we advise our customers to look at it in this light and buy now for present needs and anticipate as far as possible future requirements.

OUR January Clearance Sale is about to enter upon its second week with practically every item mentioned in our original sale advertisement still on hand.

BASED on present valuations the purchasing power of a dollar was never greater than during this January Clearance Sale.

BEAR in mind—it is not a sale of one or two departments, but from basement to third floor, every department is in line with values in seasonable and staple merchandise that are unmatched.

IN this announcement we tell you of a few of the leading attractions of this sale. In addition to those mentioned there are hundreds of others, equally as good value, in every department of the Store.

## THE PORTEOUS & MITCHELL CO.

## Women's Coats, Suits, Etc.

Our January Sale Offers Unusual Opportunities in Women's Wear—Coats, Suits, Dresses, Petticoats, Flannelette Gowns, Etc.

**Women's Coats**  
In all the most desirable cloths of the season.  
At \$18.95—reduced from \$25.00  
At \$27.50—reduced from \$35.00  
At \$37.50—reduced from \$50.00  
At \$50.00—reduced from \$75.00

**Women's Suits, \$35.00**  
Our entire stock of Women's Smart Suits is offered in this January Sale at a price which means an actual saving of \$10.00 to \$35.00 on a suit—a choice at \$35.00 former prices \$45.00 to \$65.00.

**Children's Coats**  
During the January Sale we offer a choice of our Children's Winter Coats, Sizes 8 to 14 years—at \$14.50 regular prices up to \$25.00.

**Fur Sets—Scarfs and Muffs**  
All our Fur sets in Scarfs and muffs in many of the most fashionable furs—at January Sale prices.

**Women's Dresses at \$19.50**  
Women's Dresses of Serge, Jersey and Velvet, in a variety of fashionable models—a choice at \$19.50, former prices up to \$37.50.

**House Dresses**  
At \$2.50—reduced from \$3.00  
At \$3.19—reduced from \$3.50  
At \$3.39—reduced from \$3.99

**Flannelette Gowns**  
At \$1.49—reduced from \$1.75  
At \$1.75—reduced from \$2.00  
At \$1.95—reduced from \$2.25  
At \$2.25—reduced from \$2.50

**Women's Petticoats**  
Black and Colored Sateen and Heatherloom—  
At \$2.19—reduced from \$2.50  
At \$2.69—reduced from \$3.00

**Women's Cardigans**  
At \$8.99—reduced from \$12.75  
At \$9.99—reduced from \$13.50  
At \$11.99—reduced from \$15.50  
At \$13.99—reduced from \$17.50  
At \$21.99—reduced from \$25.50

**Women's Knit Petticoats**  
At \$8.99—reduced from \$12.75  
At \$9.99—reduced from \$13.50  
At \$11.99—reduced from \$15.50  
At \$13.99—reduced from \$17.50  
At \$21.99—reduced from \$25.50

**Muslin Underwear**  
The sale of Women's Muslin Underwear will continue during the January Clearance Sale. It is the most important sale of Muslin Underwear we have ever held at this season. Don't miss it.